

Message Text

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14

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FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 336

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

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FROM ROCAP

EO11652: N/A

TAGS: ECIN PORG GT ES CR HO NU

SUBJECT: CURRENT STATUS OF DRAFT INTEGRATION TREATY

REF: 1975 GUATEMALA 6962

1. REFTEL A SUMMARIZED PROGRESS BY THE CENTRAL AMERICAN HIGH LEVEL COMMITTEE (CAN) UP TO EARLY DECEMBER IN ITS EFFORTS TO COMPLETE A NEW DRAFT TREATY ON REGIONAL INTEGRATION - TRATADO MARCO. THIS TELEGRAM SUMMARIZES SUBSEQUENT PROGRESS.

2. EXCEPT FOR AN ABBREVIATED CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY, THE CAN REMAINED IN NEARLY CONTINUOUS SESSION THROUGH DECEMBER AND JANUARY. BY THE END OF JANUARY, THE TIME FIXED BY THE FIVE CENTRAL AMERICAN CHIEFS-OF-STATE FOR THE CAN TO FINISH ITS WORK, A DRAFT TREATY, SAID TO BE "NINEY-NINE PERCENT COMPLETE", WAS IN THE HANDS OF THE REGIONS ECONOMIC MINISTERS. ALTHOUGH THE CAN HAD PLANNED TO HOLD ONE ADDITIONAL (AND FINAL) MEETING IN GUATEMALA FEBRUARY 5-6, THE ECONOMIC MINISTERS, IN THEIR JANUARY 28-30 MEETING IN NICARAGUA, HAD

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ALREADY DISCUSSED THE PROCESS FOR OBTAINING FINAL POLITICAL

APPROVAL BY THE FIVE COUNTRIES. IT HAD BEEN EXPECTED THAT THE DRAFT TREATY WOULD BE DELIVERED AT THE NEXT "CAN SUMMIT MEETING", WHICH HAD BEEN EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE FEBRUARY SIXTEENTH.

3. FOLLOWING THE STRONG EARTH TREMORS WHICH SHOOK GUATEMALA FEBRUARY 4, THE FINAL CAN MEETING WAS POSTPONED. IT IS NOW SCHEDULED FOR SAN JOSE, FEBRUARY 18-20, ACCORDING TO GUATEMALA'S MEMBER ENRIQUE PERALTA MENDEZ. IN ORDER THAT THE FIVE PRESIDENTS MIGHT BE IN A POSITION TO RECEIVE THE DRAFT "WHENEVER CONVENIENT". HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT SIECA AND THE CAN WOULD REQUIRE ABOUT ANOTHER MONTH TO PREPARE AND PRESENT THEIR FINAL REPORT, INCLUDING A SECTION BY SECTION EXPLANATION OF THE TREATY ("EXPOSICION DE MOTIVOS").

4. IN A CONVERSATION WITH ROCAP DIRECTOR FEBRUARY 2, SIECA SECRETARY GENERAL OBERTO MAYORGA EXPRESSED CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM REGARDING THE PROSPECTS FOR ADOPTION OF THE NEW TREATY. MAYORGA SAID THAT THE TREATY PROVIDED FOR SOME "SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS" IN AGRICULTURE, THE SOCIAL SECTOR AND LABOR MOBILITY, REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS, AND IN TERMS OF A NEW LEGAL BASE FOR CONTINUATION OF THE INTEGRATION MOVEMENT. ASKED WHETHER THE TREATY WOULD CONSIST MAINLY OF ASPIRATIONS OR WHETHER THERE WOULD BE SOME NOTEWORTHY SPECIFIC MEASURES, MAYORGA SAID THERE WOULD BE SOME OF BOTH.

5. ASKED WHETHER THE CAN MEMBERS ACCURATELY REFLECTED THE ATTITUDES OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS, THE SEC/GEN SAID THERE HAD BEEN CLOSE COORDINATION BETWEEN HLC REPS AND NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS. HOWEVER, HE ADDED THAT THE CAN WAS RESPONSIBLE TO THE QUATRIPARTITE MEETING WHICH CONSISTS OF TWENTY MINISTERS. IN THE LAST ANALYSIS, IT WOULD BE THE FIVE PRESIDENTS WHO WOULD DECIDE.

DECONTROL DECEMBER 31, 1980

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